# CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL

## FINAL MEETING NOTES<sup>1</sup>

Friday, November 18, 2005

Robert J. Lagomarsino Visitors Auditorium, **Channel Islands National Park Headquarters** 1901 Spinnaker Drive · Ventura Harbor, CA

Note: Audio tape recordings of this Sanctuary Advisory Council (Advisory Council) meeting are available upon request; contact the Advisory Council Coordinator at 805-884-1464.

## **Attending:**

**GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES:** 

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Alternate Lyle Enriquez

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Member Russell Galipeau

**US COAST GUARD** 

Alternate John Luzader

MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE

Member Fred Piltz, Ph.D.

**US DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE** 

Member Alex Stone Alternate Walter Schobel

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Marija Vojkovich Member

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION** 

Member Rebecca Roth

**COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA** 

Member Dianne Meester [SAC Chair]

Alternate Michelle Gibbs

**COUNTY OF VENTURA** 

Alternate Jack Peveler

**COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES:** 

**TOURISM** 

Member Lauri Baker

Non-CONSUMPTIVE RECREATION

Member Warren Glaser Alternate Scott Dunn

**BUSINESS** 

Member Bill Spicer

**CONSERVATION** 

Member Linda Krop [SAC Vice Chair]

Alternate Greg Helms

**COMMERCIAL FISHING** 

Member Chris Hoeflinger Alternate Jim Marshall

**RECREATIONAL FISHING** 

Member Merit McCrea

**EDUCATION** 

Member Craig Taylor Alternate Barbara LaCorte

RESEARCH

Member Robert Warner Ph.D.

**PUBLIC AT-LARGE-1** 

Member Jim Knowlton Alternate Phyllis Grifman

**PUBLIC AT-LARGE-2** 

Member Eric Kett [SAC Secretary]
Alternate Matt Lum

**CHUMASH COMMUNITY** 

Alternate Paulette Cabugos

NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

**Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary** 

Alternate Sean Morton, Management Plan Coordinator

**Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary** 

Chris Mobley, Manager

#### **Absent:**

**GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES:** 

**NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE** 

Member Mark Helvey

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE** 

Alternate Gary Davis

U. S. COAST GUARD

Member Lt. Ronald Fien

MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE

Alternate Ann Bull, Ph. D.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Alternate Kristine Barsky

**CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY** 

Member Brian Baird Alternate Leah Akins

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION** 

Alternate Gary Timm

**COUNTY OF VENTURA**Alternate Jack Peveler

**COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES:** 

**TOURISM** 

Alternate Monica Baker

**BUSINESS** 

Alternate Bill Agosta

RECREATIONAL FISHING Alternate Steve Roberson

**EDUCATION** 

Alternate Barbara LaCorte

RESEARCH

Alternate Ph.D. Dan Brumbaugh

PUBLIC AT-LARGE-2 Alternate Matt Lum

**CHUMASH COMMUNITY** 

Member <vacant>

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS:** 

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Member Bill Douros, Sanctuary Superintendent

**Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary** 

Maria Brown, Manager

#### Attendance

Advisory Council attendance was strong in the morning, with 16 of 21 voting seats represented at the roll call; during the peak attendance 20 seats were represented. The California Resources Agency seat was absent for the day. Public attendance ranged from approximately 10 to 35 individuals.

#### **Administrative Business and Announcements**

The Advisory Council thanked outgoing members Craig Taylor (education seat member) and Alex Stone (Department of Defense seat member) for their years of service. Incoming Department of Defense member Steve Schwartz introduced himself, as did Michelle Gibbs, the new alternate for the Santa Barbara County seat.

Russell Galipeau, Superintendent of the Channel Islands National Park, presented CINMS with a plaque and a framed poster (signed by Park staff) as a gift to commemorate the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS or Sanctuary) 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Galipeau also thanked the Advisory Council for their important role in protecting the Sanctuary and the Park.

Chris Mobley highlighted various items in the Manager's Report (provided to all Advisory Council members and the attending public):

Summary of 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary events – Chris acknowledged the extensive support from volunteers, the Channel Islands Marine Sanctuary Foundation, and the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation; successfully raised approximately \$36,000 in funds.

- O Danielle (Dani) Lipski is the new Sanctuary research assistant and we welcome her.
- The University of Michigan graduate student study and summary of sanctuary advisory councils is complete. The students conducted case studies of the Advisory Councils at Channel Islands, as well as at Monterey Bay and Stellwagen Bank. The case studies will help the team interpret the survey results and provide a more in-depth understanding of sanctuary advisory councils.
- Robert Schwemmer conducted research and provided images of the shipwreck *General M. C. Meigs* for a future article about P2-type troopships for the British Magazine *Ships Monthly*. There are more highlights of maritime heritage and ecological research so please read the report.
- o The Santa Barbara Harbor Seafood Festival on October 15 was a success.
- The Channel Islands Naturalist Corps volunteer of the year is Warren Glaser, our very own Advisory Council member.
- Also, budget figures for the operation side are coming in low, but on a good note the
  construction side of the budget will most likely receive the appropriation to continue the
  building plans at UCSB with the Marine Science Institute and CINMS. We hope to break
  ground in the end of 06'

### **Advisory Council Member Announcements**

Fred Piltz informed the council that the Energy Policy Act of 2005 includes a Coastal Impact Assistance Program for six states including California. This program will grant a total of \$250 million per year for four years to projects submitted by the states to the Minerals Management Service (MMS) for approval. The funds are apportioned to the six states according to an allocation formula. The program is modeled after a one-year program that was under the direction of NOAA in the late 1990s. MMS headquarters staff are working to develop this program by early 2006.

Piltz also called the Advisory Council's attention to an article in the Los Angeles Times about the lawsuit that Amber Resources *et al.* had brought against the United States for breach of contract of the 36 undeveloped leases offshore southern California (and four other leases terminated by MMS). The District Court of Claims in Washington D.C. has found for the plaintiffs and awarded a minimum of \$1.1 billion to the companies involved. The article mentioned that additional funds are being sought by the plaintiffs for costs associated with exploration of the leases.

Lauri Baker announced that Santa Barbara secured a leg in a bike race on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February where Lance Armstrong is a sponsor, she would be happy to help facilitate CINMS having a booth.

Chris Hoeflinger announced that the commercial fishing seat sent a letter to Admiral Lautenbacher about the decision to implement the federal phase of marine reserves under the Magnuson-Stevens Act and the National Marine Sanctuaries Act. The intent of the letter was to seek clarification as to why the Magnuson-Stevens Act would not protect the water column portion of the reserves. Hoeflinger also mentioned a request that the Fish and Game Commission change their no take zones to marine conservation areas, suggesting that this may result in a stronger monitoring program. For more information please contact Mr. Hoeflinger.

Russell Galipeau reminded the Advisory Council that Santa Cruz Island is closed except for day trips to Prisoner's Harbor and weekend day trips to Scorpion. Camping and extended daily use will be available as soon as possible following the feral pig removal process from that section of the Island.

Warren Glaser handed out a memo stating that there have been an increasing number of kayak paddlers and incidents around the Sanctuary. He also mentioned that there is a large ground swell of support to have a kayaking naturalist corps. He proposed implementing such a group not for enforcement but for education and outreach. This would require a major partnership between the Park and Sanctuary. He would like support for the proposal from the Advisory Council and hopes to discuss this item at future Advisory Council meetings. Glaser also mentioned that his proposed naturalist corps would consist solely of volunteers and that the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary has had a kayaking naturalist corps for some years now consisting of both paid workers and volunteers.

Chris Mobley and Russell Galipeau both mentioned they are aware of the increase in interest in this issue and will continue to look into it.

Paulette Cabugos announced that the First Chumash Community Working Group meeting was at the Santa Ynez Reservation last Sunday, and was sponsored by the Santa Ynez Elders Council. Attendance included members from the reservation as well as members of the Chumash Community from other locations

Rebecca Roth announced that on Wednesday (November 16), the California Coastal Commission considered recommendations to the Marine Mammal Commission's Advisory Committee on Acoustic Impacts on Marine Mammals. In 2003 Congress directed the Marine Mammal Commission to fund an international conference or series of conferences to share findings, survey acoustic threats to marine mammals, and develop means of reducing those threats while maintaining the oceans as a global highway of international commerce. To meet that Congressional directive, the Marine Mammal Commission sought recommendations from the 28-member advisory committee. Coastal Commissioner Sara Wan was the only state representative who sat on the advisory committee. Because the advisory committee did not reach consensus on its recommendations to the Marine Mammal Commission, individual advisory committee members completed their own recommendations. The Coastal Commission unanimously adopted a motion to forward Coastal Commissioner Wan's comments to the Marine Mammal Commission.

Merit McCrea announced that UCSB researchers have completed surveys of both oil platforms and natural reefs and the animals found around them. The density and sizes of the animals around the oil rigs continues to be on average lower then those around the natural reefs. However, the average sizes of those at natural reefs are larger than previous years by observations, but still smaller than those sizes he recalls from when he was a fisherman.

Linda Krop reported on the Conservation Working Group's November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, and explained that the group has begun an investigation into the issue of aquaculture. Any information that could be helpful to this effort should be sent to John Dutton, assistant to the Conservation Working Group, at <a href="mailto:jdutton@edcnet.org">jdutton@edcnet.org</a>.

Jim Marshall thanked Chris Mobley for helping at the Santa Barbara Harbor Seafood Festival, he hopes to increase participation and involvement for the entire event at next year's festival.

Phyllis Grifman announced that Sea Grant's budget for coastal research was cut by Congress in the most recent appropriation, along with some other NOAA programs. Fortunately, the California Ocean Protection Council is providing \$1 million for California's two Sea Grant programs, to fund projects meeting its research priorities (see the Ocean Protection Council website: <a href="http://resources.ca.gov/copc/">http://resources.ca.gov/copc/</a>). Both Sea Grant programs will issue proposal solicitations in early 2006.

Scott Dunn supported the idea and need for a kayaking naturalist corps at the Channel Islands and recalled several instances in which he witnessed kayakers having close calls. He suggested that if there

had been a kayaking naturalist corps at the islands at such times these dangerous situations could have been avoided.

## **Advisory Council Actions and Decisions:**

The Advisory Council passed a resolution on Sanctuary oil and gas activity prohibition and concern regarding threats beyond the Sanctuary boundary.

After much discussion, the Council adopted the following resolution, which was presented by Eric Kett:

In light of the recent passage of our nation's Energy Policy Act, the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council would like to reaffirm with the Sanctuary manager and NOAA Administrator our support of the existing prohibition on oil and gas activities within the Sanctuary. Additionally we would like the manager to know that we remain very concerned about activities of any kind outside the Sanctuary's boundaries that could have an adverse effect on the resources of the Sanctuary.

This action was prompted by a similar resolution that was recently adopted by the Advisory Council to the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary. In considering this action, much discussion focused on establishing that this was essentially a reaffirmation of both existing Sanctuary regulations and the Advisory Council's general concern regarding and desire to be vigilant about any potential threats to CINMS resources. Also, Fred Piltz (Minerals Management Service seat member) provided information about the likelihood of actual hydrocarbon inventory work (including seismic surveys) occurring within the CINMS area. Nonetheless, other Advisory Council members expressed concern about uncertainties and felt such activities could very well happen.

A roll call vote was taken, with these results: 14 yes (tourism member, non-consumptive recreation alternate, business member, conservation member, commercial fishing member, recreational fishing member, education member, public at-large1 member, public at-large2 member, Chumash community alternate, Department of Defense member, California Department of Fish and Game member, California Coastal Commission member, Santa Barbara County member), 3 abstain (NOAA Fisheries alternate, US Coast Guard alternate, Ventura County alternate), 1 no (Minerals Management Service member). Three seats were absent for the vote (Research, National Park Service, California Resources Agency). The Advisory Council Chair will communicate the resolution to Sanctuary Manager Chris Mobley via letter, and Chris Mobley will forward it to the Director of the National Marine Sanctuary Program, and in turn NOAA Administrator Lautenbacher.

# The Advisory Council unanimously adopted a series up proposed updates to its Decision-Making and Operational Protocols.

The revised protocols were developed from suggestions made by Advisory Council members at the September 23, 2005 Advisory Council meeting. The new protocols, to be posted at <a href="https://www.channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/charter.html">www.channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/charter.html</a>, will add clarity on how the Advisory Council prefers to handle situations such as: use of straw polls; responsibility for the drafting of minority opinions; the need for letter-writing subcommittees to consist of a small group of members holding various views on the issue at hand; the need for early distribution of draft proposed letters prior to a Advisory Council meetings; the need to determine the urgency of letter writing on any given issue; and a preference for letters arrived at via a deliberative process and concluded with a roll call vote; if approval of the letter comes to a vote, those who have contributed to editing the letter should vote first..

# Advisory Council members provided initial input on identifying issues and setting priorities for SAC tasks in 2006.

Staff will compile these ideas along with staff recommendations and present them to the Advisory Council at its January 20<sup>th</sup> meeting for discussion, editing, and adoption. Based on a review of the Advisory Council's 2005 annual work plan (available here:

http://www.channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/report\_doc.html), topics and issues suggested by Advisory Council members for work in 2006 (with the most input coming from the Conservation Working Group), included the following: marine reserve-related tasks continue to be relevant; the final biogeography report should be dropped in priority (because the final results were presented in 2005); report back from Sanctuary Manager on the Advisory Council's September 2005 water quality recommendations; interest by the Conservation Working Group in formation of a water quality working group and finding ways to work with the NMSP's West Coast Regional Water Quality Coordinator; support for continuation of acoustic monitoring with Dr. John Hildebrand; creation of a broader category of issues called "Energy Projects" that could encompass existing issues such as proposed Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) offshore terminals and offshore oil and gas activities as well as emerging issues like wind farms and wave energy; interest by the Conservation Working Group in having Bill Powers present to the Advisory Council on LNG issues; working with the Conservation Working Group on the development of a report and recommendations on aquaculture; dropping of the 25th anniversary events and tasks; and expanding the domoic acid topic of interest to include learning more about red tides.

The draft notes from the September 23, 2005 SAC meeting were unanimously adopted.

The Council approved selection of Vice Chair Linda Krop to accompany the SAC Chair to the next annual meeting of Advisory Council Chairs (April 2006, Washington DC), with Phyllis Grifman and Eric Kett to serve as back-ups.

#### **Informational Presentations and Discussions:**

#### **Southern Sea Otter Translocation Program**

Greg Sanders, Sea Otter Recovery Coordinator with the Ventura office of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, provided an informational presentation about the 2005 Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Translocation of Southern Sea Otters. Sanders explained the background on the translocation program and how the Fish and Wildlife service came to their proposed action of officially deeming the program a failure, doing away with the zonal management of sea otters, and letting the otters move around on their own. Sanders fielded many questions. This was an informational item for the Advisory Council; individual Advisory Council members may submit comments to the Fish and Wildlife Service by January 5 (email: <a href="mailto:fw1seaotterseis@fws.gov">fw1seaotterseis@fws.gov</a>), but the Advisory Council will not be seeking to take a group action on this.

#### **NOAA's National Data Buoy Center**

Dr. Paul Moersdorf, Director of NOAA's National Data Buoy Center (NDBC), provided a presentation to the Advisory Council and answered questions. His presentation was both educational (e.g., what the NDBC does, how the local marine buoys work, why they are there, how they are serviced) and responsive to issues raised in a recent Advisory Council letter to NOAA raising concerns about buoy repair and long-term funding. Dr. Moersdorf explained that NDBC funding has been difficult to find for taking on the long-term support of the local buoys that the Minerals Management Service will no longer be sponsoring, but that this matter is his continuing priority.

#### **NOAA's National Weather Service**

Eric Boldt, Warning Coordination Meteorologist with the Oxnard office of the National Weather Service, provided an information presentation about that office's services.

#### **Update on Development of CINMS MPA Socioeconomic Monitoring Program**

Chris LaFranchi, CINMS Social Science Coordinator, provided an informational update on the status of socioeconomic monitoring programs and efforts to work with stakeholders on a marine protected area (MPA) monitoring plan. A "straw man" plan will be available for review in a few months.

#### **Update on Marine Reserves Phase Two Environmental Review Process**

Chris Mobley provided an update on the environmental review process to consider additional marine reserves and conservation areas within the Sanctuary. Chris explained a recent letter from NOAA Administrator Vice Admiral Lautenbacher to the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC), which communicated that if marine reserves are to be established within federal waters of the CINMS, NOAA prefers use of the Magnuson-Stevens Act for closing bottom gear fishing via the pending final rule on Essential Fish Habitat designations for bottomfish, along with use of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act for other closures necessary to create no-take marine reserves. Chris also explained the PFMC's recent statements and vote in support of seeing the CINMS marine reserve network completed entirely with Magnuson-Stevens Act authority and the authority of the State of California. Chris explained that for now the National Marine Sanctuary Program is proceeding to develop a draft Environmental Impact Statement on marine reserves that will hopefully be released in spring 2006.

#### **Update on Enforcement of State Marine Protected Areas Within CINMS**

Commander Jim Sommer with the US Coast Guard, LAX, answered questions about the enforcement of fisheries laws and marine reserves around the Channel Islands, explaining that enforcement officers are operating strictly by the book and that any potential exceptions should be pursued with regulators. He also explained how various search and rescue operations and equipment are used, providing valuable safety tips for mariners.

#### Retreat to Santa Cruz Island

Bill Spicer (Advisory Council business seat member) described the recent Advisory Council/Staff retreat to Santa Cruz Island, showing pictures in a slide show and encouraging all Advisory Council members to attend the next retreat.

#### **Public Comments**

Shiva Polefka briefly commented on the Advisory Council oil and gas resolution and impacts of seismic surveys. In the anthropogenic noise report adopted by this Advisory Council there is a review of existing literature on impacts of seismic surveys that could be used with this letter. That already includes the Sanctuary Advisory Council's concern about seismic surveying. It includes data about impacts of seismic surveying on fishing, and expresses concerns about how seismic surveying outside the Sanctuary could affect Sanctuary resources.

Steve Shimek, the conservation alternate on Monterey Bay's Sanctuary Advisory Council and the executive Director of The Otter Project, commented on the sea otter translocation issue. Shimek acknowledged that there are two ways to look at the otter issues: restoring otter populations and bringing about cascading effects of ecological benefits; and fisheries benefits of not having otters around and having predictable fishing efforts. Shimek also acknowledged that they are both reasonable points of view, but we have to make choices. He stated that when the sea otter translocation (which he refers to as a reintroduction) to San Nicholas Island occurred 13 years ago, it happened with a set of goals and

objectives. There was a set of failure criteria regarding what happens if the otter population doesn't propagate as planned. Shimek then indicated that we haven't revisited the failure criteria. There was an obligation to remove otters, but there was also an obligation to review the failure criteria if it didn't work. The goal was to have 150 otters and now we have about 30. There is a decision that needs to be made based on the two sets of equally legitimate conflicting values.

Chris Hoeflinger then asked about the opportunity to compromise. Shimek replied that one compromise he's heard is to give ground along the mainland and exclude sea otters from the islands. Shimek then said the criteria for failure was met 15 years ago so how does one compromise when there is a process laid out in regulation?

Shiva Polefka spoke again at the second public comment period, from a written statement:

My comment is based on the reality that the Sanctuary and Park are established and maintained to conserve natural resources. Significant capital and effort have been expanded by these agencies to restore and enhance the historic resources and ecosystems of the islands and surrounding waters from fisheries regulation to invasive species eradication, often with great success. Acknowledgment of the failure of the sea otter translocation and zonal management would allow further natural restoration of a species native to but extirpated from the Sanctuary's ecosystem.

Published data on sea otter ecology suggests many ecosystem benefits from recovery of otters to California's kelp forests disproportionate to the small number of otters that exist. Additionally, allowing otters to recover their native habitat implies significant enhancement to Sanctuary and Park biodiversity, an asset of unquantifiable intrinsic value. This outcome would be in line with the respective mission of these agencies, and a service to present and future generations of public stakeholders in these protected areas.

## **Working Group Reports**

Conservation Working Group. Linda Krop announced that at the most recent Conservation Working Group meeting John Dutton provided a presentation about an aquaculture report he is working on with Shiva Polefka. They had a good meeting with Sean Hastings to discuss this topic and the Sanctuary does not really have the resources to conduct such an aquaculture assessment. The report will look at environmental issues, socioeconomic impacts to commercial and recreational fishing, and the regulatory setting. If anyone has an interest in that issue let Krop know and she will put you in touch with Dutton or Polefka. As noted in the Conservation Working Group report, during their recent meeting they also discussed: marine reserves, sea otters, oil and gas, and the Advisory Council's 2006 work plan. LNG was one of the items on the 2005 workplan and the Conservation Working Group thought that should be expanded to a broad energy category. If anyone has any questions please contact Krop.

Krop also noted that John Dutton is an intern working with the Conservation Working Group on the aquaculture report for a set time frame. Right now he is working on environmental impacts and socioeconomic impacts of aquaculture so if these are issues you have information on please contact him right away at: <a href="mailto:jdutton@edcnet.org">jdutton@edcnet.org</a>, or send your information to Shiva Polefka.

**Commercial Fishing Working Group**: Chris Hoeflinger met with Carrie Pomeroy and John Richards and they are trying to put together some examples of collaborative programs that could fill research and monitoring gaps. Mr. Hoeflinger then mentioned that Chris LaFranchi met with several different groups

including the recreational and commercial fishing communities/working groups about socio-economic monitoring. Also, the issue of the R/V *Shearwater* being used in place of commercial concessionaire vessels was raised.

**Recreational Fishing Working Group**: Merit McCrea passed along comments from members of the Recreational Fishing Working Group expressing concern about recent socio-economic workshops, specifically noting communication problems and perceived bias related to the participating UCLA economist. Merit also reported that concerns have been voiced that the Sanctuary's research vessel *Shearwater* is creating inappropriate business competition with the private sector.

**Chumash Community Working Group:** Paulette Cabugos repeated her earlier announcement that the First Chumash Community Working Group meeting was held at the Santa Ynez Reservation last Sunday, sponsored by: San Ynez Elders Council, the entire membership of the reservation, and other communities.

**Research Activities Panel (RAP)**: Bob Warner noted that the RAP did not meet, but they may have more activity now that Dani Lipski is in place as the Sanctuary Research Assistant and they are looking forward to working with her.

Sanctuary Education Team (SET): The SET had no report at this time, but Mike Murray said that they are really close to launching a new outreach program for the Sanctuary and they want to start by bringing their recently completed outreach presentations to the Sanctuary Advisory Council.

### **Future Advisory Council Meetings, Events and Agenda Topics**

#### **Future Meetings:**

Dianne Meester announced that the last item on the agenda is the meeting schedule. At its last
meeting the Advisory Council agreed to adopt a Friday meeting schedule and then reserve the option
to hold two meetings on Thursday evenings depending on the schedules for the management plan
and marine reserves items.

Mike Murray noted that the January meeting will be in Santa Barbara and if the management plan release lines up with that it might be one of the opportunities to have a Thursday afternoon/evening meeting. If anyone has concerns about that or will not be able to attend an afternoon/evening meeting please let Murray know.

## 2006 Tentative\* SAC Meeting Dates:

- Friday, January 20, 2006: SAC Meeting, Santa Barbara
- Friday, March 17, 2006: SAC Meeting, Ventura
- Friday, May 19, 2006: SAC Meeting, Santa Barbara
- Friday, July 21, 2006: SAC Meeting, Ventura
- Friday, September 22, 2006: SAC Meeting, Santa Barbara
- Friday, November 17, 2006: SAC Meeting, Ventura

\* The SAC expressed support for holding at least two evening sessions in 2006 (one in Santa Barbara and one in Ventura). These evening sessions would be on Thursdays preceding two of the above dates. The exact dates have not been selected yet, as the SAC would prefer to meet in the evening when there is an item of elevated public interest on the agenda, such as a public hearing on the Management Plan or the release of a draft environmental impact statement on marine reserves/conservation areas). So, plan on the above listed meeting schedule until future notice about shifting to a preceding Thursday. Staff will provide as much advance notice as possible.

jacklyn.kelly@noaa.gov

#### **Post Meeting Activities:**

Several Advisory Council members remained after the meeting was adjourned to watch a special slide show commemorating the CINMS 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. About ten Advisory Council members met afterward for a happy hour gathering.

Meeting notes respectfully submitted by Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary staff:

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